



THE FIRELINE



Summer 2007 #1

State Fire Training
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Letter from the Chief

Mike Richwine, Chief State Fire Training

Progress through Partnerships

"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." This well-worn cliché could describe the synergy of operations and planning of the State Fire Training Division. Contributions from fire chiefs, training officers, fire technology directors, instructors, fire service labor, state agencies, and contractors have combined to make improvements in the development and delivery of training programs. Our annual report will provide an overview of our activities this past year.

(<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/reports/sfm2006annualreport.pdf>)



As a goal, SFT strives to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new ones to collectively deliver to the fire service updated training programs and advanced technologies for our courses. During the past year, through funding from the Department of Homeland Security and oversight from the Department of Military, we have developed a new Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations course and are entering the final stages of the release of updates to Trench Rescue, Confined Space Rescue and the Rescue Systems I and II courses as well.

These projects would not have been possible without the leadership and resources of the Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Branch. Their commitment to these projects is key to our goal of enhancing the rescue capability and capacity of the fire service through standardized rescue systems certification, curricula, instructor qualifications and training site requirements. State Fire Training is discussing further partnership opportunities with the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI), the state's leader in Hazardous Materials, Emergency Management, and Weapons of Mass Destruction/Terrorism courses.

Through the efforts of the California Fire Technology Directors Association and California Fire Chiefs Association, Training Officers Section, hybrid online Fire Officer courses will be beta tested by the State Fire Marshal (SFM). These courses are being offered through Allan Hancock College and will become part of the SFT courseware available to all in instructors in the future. I want to emphasize this is a beta test and there are many issues and questions to be answered through post delivery evaluation of the courses. Information on the evaluation and progress of these courses will be provided in future communications or you may monitor this issue through the Statewide Training Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) meeting minutes. (<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/STEAdvComm.html>)

Thank you again, to all of you who are contributing to once again making California the leader in fire service training. We are making progress.

Upcoming Event

Training Officers Fall
Symposium

November 12-16, 2007

~ Fresno ~



Fire Service is Best for EMS

Thanks to CAL-CHIEFS for Sending the Following Notice and Link

Fire departments are best equipped to deliver emergency medical services, according to a new whitepaper, *Prehospital 911 Emergency Medical Response: The Role of the U.S. Fire Service in Delivery and Coordination*. Released at the IAFF Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference in Houston, Texas, June 24-27, the 13-page report, written and prepared by top EMS physicians, outlines the time-critical role fire-based EMS provides, and stresses the need to educate policymakers about the importance of fire-based EMS.

Prehospital 9-1-1 Response: The Role of the United States Fire Service in Delivery and Coordination can be downloaded for printing and distribution to local, state, and federal leaders. The DVD, "EMS: The Right Response" is also available by request from the IAFF Technical Assistance Division at (202) 824-1578 or email Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell at lmoore@iaff.org.

Work in Progress

Certification Training Standards (CTS)

Certification Training Standards are blueprints for the California minimum training standards that a person must achieve to be recognized for certification in a specific area.

The California fire service and SFT have recognized the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) standards as one of the inventories of professional qualifications. However, we have also recognized other standards that may apply and these have been adopted when appropriate.

A Certification Training Standards (CTS) Guide is developed based on these recognized standards for the various ranks or positions utilized in the fire service -- fire fighter, driver/operator, training officer, fire officer, etc. The CTS Guide has several valuable uses:

1. It is the foundation for the certification programs recommended for adoption by the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS). Any certification program must be based upon job-related knowledge and measurable objectives.
2. It provides measurable minimum performance standards. The validity and reliability of fire service entrance and promotional examinations can be more easily defended when such measurable standards are utilized.
3. It lists a variety of reference resources that may be studied in order to enhance job performance.

CTS Projects

- Training Officer (formerly Fire Instructor) CTS has been revised and approved for implementation.
- Fire-Arson Investigator (formerly Fire Investigator) has been revised and approved for implementation.
- Fire Officer CTS has been revised and recommended for adoption by STEAC. This CTS will be presented to the SBFS at their next meeting.
- Chief Officer CTS is in its second draft and is under a review by STEAC.
- Fire Marshal CTS development began in June 2007 and will be a critical component in rewriting the Fire Prevention classes to coincide with the adoption of the International Fire and Building Codes.
- Public Education Officer CTS is scheduled for development this fiscal year.

Curriculum Development Projects

Fire Command 1C

This course is being updated due to new material from NWCG and FIREScope.

Driver/Operator 1A and 1B

Both driver/operator courses are being reviewed against the latest NFPA standard and the second edition Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook from IFSTA/FPP. Updated instructor guides, student supplements, and certification exams should be available in the upcoming months.

Fire Investigation 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B

All four fire investigation courses have been updated to the new Fire-Arson Investigator CTS Guide, which corresponds to the latest NPFA standard. The main text for all four courses will be NFPA 21: Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations. Updated instructor guides, student supplements, and certification exams should be available in the upcoming months.

Fire Instructor Courses

A committee is being formed to revise all the courses within the Training Officer certification track. The new courses will support the certification training standards recently recommended by the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) for adoption. The committee's work will begin with the Level 1 courses.

Task Books

A statewide committee is reviewing the Fire Control 3 Primary and Senior Instructor task books and course manuals. Watch for updates.

International Code Council (ICC) California Amendments Update Courses

ICC, in cooperation with SFT, is developing two six-hour transition courses on the California Building Code (CBC) and California Fire Code (CFC). These courses are designed to familiarize current Fire Prevention Officers of the amendments in the new codes. Courses will include a matrix on the adoption tables and crosswalk of the 2001 CFC/CBC and the 2007 ICC versions of the CFC/CBC. ICC will coordinate course delivery and locations through the northern and southern California Fire Prevention Officers sections. We expect these courses to be available September 2007 thru February 2008. Stay tuned for more information.

OES/CSTI Enhances Their Partnership With State Fire Training

By Jodi Traversaro, OES Training Branch Chief

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services, through its California Specialized Training Institute (OES CSTI), has been building and encouraging multi-disciplinary, multi-jurisdictional partnerships through the statewide training and exercise services it provides, which are consistent with the fundamental values of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). State Fire Training and CSTI work hand-in-hand to ensure the programs administered by OES CSTI are of the highest quality and meet the evolving demands of the fire service. CSTI has been providing all-hazard disaster management training to California's first-responders for over 30 years. Well known for its Hazardous Materials Training Program, CSTI has trained and certified over 330,000 hazardous materials first-responders and 2,000 hazardous materials instructors since 1985.

New Specialist Certificates Offered through OES CSTI

OES CSTI is currently working toward professionalizing emergency management

and homeland security management occupations through specialized occupational certifications. OES CSTI has added new Specialist Certificate programs in the areas of Emergency Management Specialist, Terrorism/Homeland Security Specialist, Crisis Communications Specialist, and Exercise Design Specialist.

State Emergency Responder Credentialing Program

To further enhance the State's ability to respond to a disaster or an Incident of National Significance, OES CSTI has embarked on a credentialing program for key SEMS/National Incident Management System (NIMS) Emergency Response positions. This effort has been coordinated with the assistance of local and state government, the private sector, non-profits, and tribal entities. The SEMS Advisory Board has reviewed and approved this voluntary program. Fire service field personnel are credentialed under CICC (California Incident Command Certification System). This certification can be carried into the EOC with the addition of NIMS 700 and 800 training and specific EOC training.

For more information about OES CSTI, go to www.oes.ca.gov and mouse over Training & Exercises.

CICC Task Force Update

By Scott Vail-California Incident Command Certification System Task Force

The CICC Task Force requested the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors recommend the adoption of a statewide **incident qualifications card** by the California Fire Service at the Board of Directors meeting on July 11, 2007. Additionally, the Task Force asked the Board to recommend the gradual adoption of the **Incident Qualifications System** as the data management system for tracking training, certification, and qualifications of fire department personnel.

The Board of Directors accepted the CICC proposal to recommend the adoption of a qualifications card and IQS. They requested a letter from the CICC Task Force be sent to all California Fire Agencies explaining both the qualifications card and IQS, which the Task Force will do.

A valid qualifications card would contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- The individual's name
- Qualifications Number-CA-Department 3-letter designator with the last 4 numbers of the SSN or department identification number
- Agency name
- Fitness standard (department certification that the individual meets department fitness standards, and level of fitness is adequate to safely perform the position for which they qualify or are training for.)
- Approved current qualifications that have documented education, training and experience for mnemonic
- Approved trainee position mnemonics where the individual has completed all prerequisite training and holds a department initiated task book.
- Printed name of the Chief
- Signature of the Chief

The Incident Qualifications System will track training, experience, fitness, and incident data. In addition, it prepares report and print cards and interfaces with ROSS.

Other issues the Task Force is working on:

- Updating the equivalency matrix because of the development of new positions, a subgroup has been formed to work on this.
- Training courses that meet the objectives of training rather than NWCG recommended hours. The intent is to cover the necessary information for safe operation in the fire environment.
- Alternatives to maintain currency other than an actual assignment to an incident.
- Proper use of task books is a real issue and the Task Force will be developing training on their use.

There is still confusion over which version of the NWCG 310-1 is to be used. The only version adopted by the State Board of Fire Services is the 2000 version. The Task Force will be providing better guidance to fire agencies in the near future.

The July 23, 2007 Task Force meeting was postponed due to fire activity and has not been rescheduled.

Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational Training Program

State Fire Training is proud to announce the release of the new "Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational (LARR) Fire Service Training and Educational Program (FSTEP) training program. The new Student/Instructor Guide was finalized in June with updates based on instructor/student comments and ideas. The new manual for this training program comes complete with great color diagrams and photographs. This program replaced the Low Angle Rescue FSTEP training program as of July 1, 2007. Any currently registered LARR instructor may schedule and deliver this program.

Rescue Curriculum Update

With generous funding from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Services, SFT is actively involved in updating all of the rescue systems training curriculum. Curriculum workgroups are in the final design and review of Rescue Systems 1, Rescue Systems 2, Confined Space Rescue Technician, and Trench Rescue. Watch for an announcement for instructor roll out classes in the Fall of 2007 and early Spring of 2008 for each of these programs.

Ethical Leadership in the Classroom

Completion Deadline for SFT Registered Instructors

The deadlines for completing an "Ethical Leadership in Classroom" course are listed below. Note - the deadline for currently registered California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) instructors has been extended.

CFSTES INSTRUCTOR DECEMBER 31, 2007

FSTEP INSTRUCTOR DECEMBER 31, 2007

Currently registered instructors must successfully complete the class and sign the Instructor Code of Ethics/Conduct. All PACE II applications for new instructors received after July 1, 2007 must include the "Ethical Leadership in the Classroom" course certificate. Instructor applicants must also have a signed Instructor Code of Ethics/Conduct on file. If you are still in need of this class, please review our Class Schedule on our website: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/ClassSchedule.asp>



Scantrons Required for FSTEP Courses

State Fire Training is collecting data on FSTEP classes beginning in July 2007. This information will be used to track the number of FSTEP classes and students who go through these classes every year. A benefit of providing Scantrons for these FSTEP classes is that it will allow SFT to keep student records and provide duplicate FSTEP certificates when requested.

We are asking FSTEP instructors to provide all students with a Scantron form and have them fill it out completely, neatly, and accurately. Instructors must mark on the Scantron whether the student passed or failed the class and then return them to our office for processing. This is done on the back of the Scantron form in the "Office Use Only Area" under "Type" by bubbling in the plus sign for "Passed" or the minus if the student "Failed."

Your assistance in this new process is greatly appreciated!

Fee Increase on January 1, 2008

Beginning **January 1, 2008**, CFSTES and FSTEP fees will change as follows:

- Certification fees will increase by **\$10**.
- FSTEP course registration fee will increase **\$15** per student.
- CFSTES course registration fee will increase **\$30** per student and will include the student manual/supplement provided by the SFT bookstore. Additional materials may be required from other sources, and are listed in the Course Information and Required Materials Manual available on our website at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/training/CIARM.pdf>

If you have any questions regarding the fee increase, contact Christy Owen, Manager, Certification and Registration at (916) 327-2129 or via e-mail at christy.owen@fire.ca.gov

Changes to the Regional and Local Accredited Academy Program

The Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) convened a sub-committee to review and update the existing policy and procedures relative to Accredited Regional and Local Academies. The subcommittee restructured the Policy and Procedures, removed superfluous language and redundancies, and made the following significant changes:

- Changed the title of Accredited Regional Academy (ARA) to Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) to end the confusion between ARA and fire academies (which also exist outside of accredited regional academies)
- Requires all accredited academies to do local processing of classes
- Added an accountability section for both Accredited Regional Training Program and Accredited Local Academies

The new policy will go into effect January 1, 2008. The changes to the Policy and Procedures will not immediately affect new academy applications or current applications for reaccreditation. Existing academies that will soon be going through the re-accreditation process will be allowed to phase in their local processing requirements. Any questions regarding the accreditation process should be directed to Rodney.Slaughter@fire.ca.gov.



**COURSE
SCHEDULING FAX**

(916) 552-9464

**NEW NUMBER for
Course Scheduling!**

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Event

 **EMT IO**
October 1-5, 2007
Monterey

FSTEP Student Manuals

Student manuals for FSTEP classes can now be ordered in the same manner as they are for CFSTES classes. The FSTEP course scheduling form has been modified to include a box for instructors to indicate if student manuals are needed for the class. The manuals will be shipped with the other FSTEP class materials before the class begins and any unused manuals can be returned to SFT training after the class ends. The invoice for the class will include the charge for the student manuals.

If you are unsure if a class has a required student manual, please refer to the Course Information and Required Materials manual on our website at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/training/CIARM.pdf>

Regional Instructor Orientation Schedule

Fourteen Regional Instructor Orientations will be delivered statewide this fiscal year.

Camarillo
Los Angeles
Santa Maria
Yreka

El Cajon
Pleasanton
Seaside

Fresno (2)
Riverside
St. Helena

Ione
Sacramento
Victorville

Check the class schedule at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/ClassSchedule.asp> for the date and location near you.

EMT-I Instructor Orientation

State Fire Training's EMT-I Instructor Orientation is designed to prepare the EMS trainer to deliver EMT-I basic and refresher classes. Topics of discussion include: The EMSA approved EMT-I curriculum, statutes and regulations governing the EMT-I programs, National Registry Exam, OSFM certification, State Fire Training policies and procedures, review of important instructional techniques and classroom management.

Course Prerequisites

- Fire Instructor 1A and 1B
- Two years experience in EMS
- Current EMT-I certificate or higher. Previously, EMT-P licenses could be expired. However, current regulations do not allow any medical credential to be expired.

Students attending the class will receive the following:

- ① Emergency Care, Brady, 10th Edition, Student Text, Instructor's Resource Manual.
- ② State Fire Training's EMT-I Policies and Procedures.
- ③ Required Skill Sheets and Verification Form.
- ④ 18 hours of Category I continuing education.

Our next scheduled class will be held October 1-5, 2007 in Monterey, California

**To register, please call:
Natalie Rodda
(831) 646-4240**

Application Due Date:

August 31, 2007

Meeting Date:

September 12, 2007

Ontario FD

Upcoming Event



Instructor Database Available Online

State Fire Training converted our current instructor database, which had more than 3,000 names on it, to a new system. We only included information on our "active" instructors – an instructor who was the primary instructor for a CFSTES or FSTEP class within the past three years.

If you are an instructor, but do not find your name in this new database, please provide us with your current information by completing the Instructor Profile Update link in the "Downloads" section of the SFT webpage at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/TrainingInstructorProfile.html>

The Continuing Challenge

HazMat Workshop Sacramento California – September 4-7-2007

The nation's leading Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Workshop. Registration began June 1, 2007 at www.hazmat.org

After registering on the website, please help honor deserving HazMat Responders by submitting a nomination for the Continuing Challenge Awards. For more information, call (916) 433-1688.

Wildland Urban Interface Building Standards (WUIBS) Classes

Chapter 7A of the California Building Code, Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure, was approved by the Building Standards Commission, with scheduled implementation January 1, 2008. This new chapter of the code will apply to new construction in designated Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas.

A four-hour course has been developed for building officials, fire officials, planners, building materials manufacturers, developers, architects engineers and other building professionals. Classes will be offered at locations throughout the state. For more information, visit the CAL FIRE website at http://www.fire.ca.gov/wildland_codes_training.php. With questions, contact Steve Quarles at stephen.quarles@fire.ca.gov

National Fire Academy News

State Fire Training will soon be offering nine courses in conjunction with the National Fire Academy (NFA). Keep checking your email for Fireline updates if you are interested in hosting an NFA course. If you have any questions, contact Kim Hines at (916) 445-4758 or via e-mail at kim.hines@fire.ca.gov

Training Grant

Fire Act Grants for Training

The Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program (AFG), offers funding for both Fire and EMS training. Training priorities on delivery methods and type of training are clearly spelled out in the program guidance and should be carefully followed to give you the best chance of gaining an award. Download the 2007 guide at firegrantsupport.com and begin developing your 2008 priorities.

The Fire Grant funds equipment, instructor expenses, train the trainer courses

Fire Grant Application Tip:

Add sales tax to all items; preferably list the sales tax in a separate line item. California is one of only a few states where fire departments pay sales tax.

Input welcomed

If you have suggestions about the future course of State Fire Training functions and programs, please feel free to email us.

and almost all the expenses associated with training. Overtime, travel, backfill and other cost are eligible but you should consider the cost-benefit factors and take note of what the program guide states about these costs.

Fire Act Grant Timelines

Early 2008, the fire grant application period will again open and is expected to continue the three application format started last year; individual department Operations & Safety, Vehicle and Regional. We encourage you to begin to develop your Regional applications now.

Fire Prevention and Safety for 2007 is also coming up before the end of the year.

The 2007 SAFER Grant 30-day application period will be opening soon. Remember that there are funds for Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters available in addition to hiring career firefighters.

Fire Grant Help in California

The Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program (AFG) has a specialist in California that can assist your AFG grant development and management. Contact Douglas Woods in the Oakland FEMA office at 510-627-7208 or email douglas.woods@dhs.gov. Check out their home page at www.firegrantsupport.com for the guidance documents and FAQ. There you can sign up for their E-newsletter for the latest grant application news.

Receive a Link to The FIRELINE

To receive a link to **The FIRELINE** every time it is updated, please e-mail karen.terrell@fire.ca.gov. Write "Fireline Registration" in the message line. Whenever there is something new within State Fire Training, we will send you a heads-up with a link to the announcement.

New Faces Join State Fire Training

Introducing the five newest members to State Fire Training.

Christy Owen

Christy is a Staff Services Manager responsible for managing, planning, directing, and supervising the activities of twelve professional, technical, and clerical staff within the complex and diverse State Fire Training Division. In addition, Christy will represent SFT at conferences, meetings, and forums involving the State Fire Training program. She came to State Fire Training from CAL FIRE's Northern Region Headquarters office in January. At Northern Region HQ, she served as an Administrative Officer II over Finance and Business Services. She has more than 13 years with CAL FIRE and says she has developed a great deal of respect for those who work in the fire service. Christy has been married for 11 years. She and her husband recently moved to the Sacramento area and enjoy exploring their new surroundings.

Ken Vollenweider

Ken is a Deputy State Fire Marshal responsible for assisting Northern California with SFT programs, site approvals, and quality assurance. In addition, Ken will assist in teaching the Regional Instructor Orientation and manage curriculum projects. Ken came to SFT from Fire Engineering in Sacramento headquarters, but he spent most of his career in Fire and Life Safety in Northern California. Ken has a wife, four kids and a dog. Whenever he can, he takes to the open road on his Harley.

Ramiro Rodriguez

Ramiro is a Deputy State Fire Marshal III responsible for assisting Southern

California with SFT programs, site approvals, and quality assurance. In addition, Ramiro will assist in teaching the Regional Instructor Orientation and manage curriculum projects. He was previously assigned to the Fire Life Safety Division-South. Ramiro remains an active Reserve Fire Fighter with the Porterville Fire Department. Ramiro and his wife Sheri have five children, two grandsons (soon to be three) and two cats.

Susan Pineau

Susan is a Management Services Technician responsible for processing CFSTES courses, retake exams, and duplicate course certificates. She came to us from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. She says the best part of her job is helping fire fighters receive their certificates. She is married with three children and three grandchildren. In her spare time, she loves horseback riding.

Linda Menchaca

Linda is an Office Technician responsible for course scheduling and local processing. In addition, Linda supports the workload in the SFT Bookstore when necessary. Prior to State Fire Training, Linda worked in corporate America including 23 years for AT&T. She says she loves to assist in providing training for the men and women who protect us. In her personal life, she has, "been blessed with two wonderful sons, the best daughter-in-law in the world and the sweetest grandson and granddaughter ever."

SFT Staff and Responsibilities

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